

STRENGTHENING THE MIDDLE CLASS

O'Malley-Brown's 2014 Legislative Session Highlights



Increased Maryland's Minimum Wage to \$10.10

Governor O'Malley and Lt. Governor Brown successfully led the fight to raise Maryland's minimum wage to \$10.10. Hundreds of thousands of Maryland workers will receive a raise, injecting money into the economy and creating good-paying, family-supporting jobs.

Expanded Pre-Kindergarten

Governor O'Malley and Lt. Governor Brown expanded pre-kindergarten to 1,600 more children across Maryland and laid the groundwork for a further statewide expansion in coming years.



Protected Transgender Marylanders Equally Under the Law

Maryland joined 17 states and the District of Columbia in banning gender identity discrimination. This comes on the heels of Maryland passing civil marriage equality in 2012.



Protected Domestic Violence Victims and Children

Governor O'Malley and Lt. Governor Brown enhanced protections for victims of domestic violence. They increased penalties for committing an act of domestic violence in front of a child; made it easier to get a protective order by changing the standard of proof; and added second-degree assault to crimes for which a person can obtain a final protective order.

Passed the 8th Consecutive Balanced Budget

For the 8th year in a row, Governor O'Malley and Lt. Governor Brown passed a budget with a balanced approach of spending cuts and investments.

Investments in job creation and innovation: the budget includes the Biotech Tax Credit (\$12 million), the Cyber Tax Credit (\$4 million), and the R&D Tax Credit (\$9 million); and \$7.4 million for the Maryland Economic Development Assistance Authority and Fund (MEDAAF), the State's primary business development and job creation program.

Investments in education: this year's budget includes a record \$6.1 billion for public education; \$275 million for school construction; \$1.4 million for the Early College Innovation Fund to support career and technical education (CTE); and \$3.5 million for the Digital Learning Innovation Fund to help local school accelerate the transition to digital learning.

Fiscally Responsible: makes strong progress on retiring the \$1.7 billion structural deficit inherited in 2007, and brings the Administration's total budget cuts to \$9.2 billion over 8 years.

Permanently Protected 22,000 Acres of Wildlands

Governor O'Malley and Lt. Governor Brown fought to expand the State's Wildlands Preservation system by 50 percent in nine counties. The wildlands are natural areas that support ecosystems, plants, and animals.

Improved Prison Integrity and Security

Governor O'Malley and Lt. Governor Brown improved safety and security in the State's correctional facilities by combatting the introduction of contraband, enhancing investigatory capacity, and rooting out corruption.

